



Week of June 18 – June 24, 2008

On-base shopping, child care are benefits for Airmen

A sense of duty, commitment to service and pride in the mission are some reasons Airmen join the Air Force; the benefits the Air Force provides are a significant reason many Airmen and their families can continue to serve. Among the many benefits the Air Force offers, the convenience of on-base shopping and availability of child care can make life easier for Airmen and their families.

Supervisors are encouraged to provide Airmen with a copy of the Air Force Compensation Fact Sheet, which outlines several of these benefits to being a member of the Air Force.

Airmen should remember the following facts about these benefits:

- For more than 105 years, the service has been wherever Soldiers and Airmen go to provide them with convenient shopping. Airmen can save an average of 11 percent by shopping at the BX and the profits are used in part to fund morale, welfare and recreation programs. It's also important to remember that shopping at the base exchange is tax free.
- Purchasing groceries at the commissary is another great way for Airmen and their families to save money. Items bought at the commissary are sold at cost plus a mere five percent, which covers some operational costs.
- Child development centers and youth programs give families opportunities for licensed on-base child care. Air Force child-care centers are certified by the Department of Defense and accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Fees are based on household income and in many cases extended-duty child care is available for Airmen who must work late.

Above all, whether it's for convenience or cost savings, Airmen should keep these options in mind. For more information, ask your supervisor for the fact sheet or visit <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-080129-141.pdf>.

Find Airman's Roll Call Online Here: <http://www.af.mil/library/viewpoints/>

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.